

John Holly

JOHN HOLLY 4113 26 B2

Cotton Davis Shafter, 1940

John Holly was a wily desperate man
And he carried a gun every day
He killed him a man
in the west and then
You ought to see John Holly get away.

John Holly he went to the Big Bend train
He purposed to make escape
But the Big Bend
train was not on time
John Holly he proved too late.

John Holly he went to the big ball-room
Tossed fifty cents in the game
“The man that wins
this fifty cents
My gun's gonna blow him away.”

“Oh, fifty cents is all I've got
But with fifty cents I'll play
And the man that gets this fifty
cents
My gun's gonna blow him away.”

“I've been to the east and I've been to the west
And I've been this wide world around
I've been on the waters and I've been baptised
And I'm standing on my hanging ground.”

“With a silver spade go and dig my grave
And a golden chain let me down
O, give my
mama the remains of me
While I'm sleeping in the cold, cold ground.”

When John Holly was a little boy
He was set on his daddy's knee ...
Big Bend tunnel on the
K & O road
Is gonna be the death of me.